

DECISION ON CONTROVERSIAL STATUE

MAYOR'S OFFICE TO MOVE RIZZO

A new site has not been picked. The relocation was called part of a Thomas Paine Plaza revamp.

By Chris Brennan
STAFF WRITER

After months of protests and public arguments, Mayor Kenney's administration on Friday announced that it would move the bronze statue of former Mayor Frank L. Rizzo that has stood outside the Municipal Services Building for nearly two decades.

In a brief statement, Michael DiBerardinis, city managing director, didn't say where or when the statue would be relocated, but cast the emotionally and politically freighted decision as part of a planned remake of the surrounding Thomas Paine Plaza.

It was an anticlimactic moment considering the passions the Rizzo statue aroused during a summer of protests, forcing sometimes uncomfortable questions about which leaders of the past should be honored and which should not. Statues of heroes of the Confederacy were removed in city after city.

To his Philadelphia detractors, Rizzo oppressed black citizens as police commissioner in the 1960s and was elected mayor in the 1970s in part by appealing to the racial fears of white Philadelphians. To those who admired him, the activists demanding the statue's removal were maligning a good man who protected all people from crime.

"This decision comes at a time when we have begun the preliminary stages of planning to re-envision Paine Plaza as a new type of inviting and engaging public space," DiBerardinis' statement said. Similar efforts have been completed at Dilworth Park, on City Hall's western apron, and are underway at JFK Plaza — See **STATUE** on A2



The decision comes after months of protests and public arguments over the statue of Frank L. Rizzo, former police commissioner and mayor. ED HILLE / Staff Photographer

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Where should the Frank Rizzo statue go? Vote in our online poll:
www.philly.com/rizzopoll

- **REACTIONS:** In some quarters, relief and celebration, but in others, consternation and outrage. **B1**
- **RONNIE POLANECZKY:** Let's give other sculptures their turn on Thomas Paine Plaza. **B1**
- **SCULPTOR DISAPPOINTED:** Moving statue means a lost opportunity to educate on Rizzo's legacy. **B4**

A WARMING WORLD

U.S. report: Climate change is our doing

It says Northeast may take major hit. Administration made no attempt to block its legally mandated release.

By Frank Kummer
STAFF WRITER

The Earth is now in its warmest period in the history of modern civilization and it is "extremely likely" humans are causing the rise, according to a sweeping new special report by scientists working for the U.S. government that paints a grim picture for the future of the climate.

Released Friday afternoon, the report notes that the Northeast and Atlantic coast could be in for an especially difficult time ahead — particularly with flooding and heavy storms.

"The last few years have also seen record-breaking, climate-related weather extremes, and the last three years have been the warmest years on record for the globe," says the report by the U.S. Global Change Research Program.

The strongly worded report, almost dire at times, comes at a

See **CLIMATE** on A2



Bergdahl before and after his dishonorable discharge.

NATION | A3

Bergdahl avoids jail time

BUSINESS | A7

Employers add 261,000 jobs

DAYLIGHT SAVING TIME ENDS

At 2 a.m. Sunday, all clocks are to be set **back** one hour. Reset your clocks before retiring Saturday night.

